

Remarks

Claim 15 is pending. Claims 16 and 17 have been canceled without prejudice to prosecution of these claims in a continuing application.

§ 112 Rejections

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, allegedly as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 16 and 17 stands rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, allegedly for failing to comply with the written description requirement allegedly because the pharmaceutical composition comprising the intermediate compound of claim 15 and the method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis using this compound are not described in the specification, and allegedly because the claimed method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis reaches out to activities/conditions/diseases mediated by a cytokine not yet identified.

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 USC § 112, first paragraph, allegedly because the claim contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to use the invention.

Claims 16 and 17 have been cancelled without prejudice to prosecution of this claim in a continuing application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

§ 101 Rejection

Claim 17 stands rejected under 35 USC § 101, allegedly because recitation of the mechanism without the end result would have no utility. Claim 17 has been cancelled without prejudice to prosecution of this claim in a continuing application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claim 15 stands allowed.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance.
Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Allowance of claim 15, at an early date is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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